

### **REMARKS**

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1 through 12 and claims 21 through 31 are allowed.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

Claims 1-31 were pending in the application. Claims 13 through 20 have been canceled.

#### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

The Examiner rejected claims 13 through 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,507,855 to Stern. Claims 13-16 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejection of claims 13 through 16 is moot. Applicant hereby requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

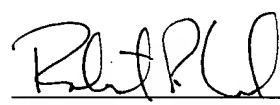
The Examiner rejected claims 17 through 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,620,204 to Malcolm. Claims 17-20 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejection of claims 17 through 20 is moot. Applicant hereby requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

#### **Conclusion**

The examiner has kindly indicated that all remaining pending claims are allowed. Applicant believes that this response is responsive to each and every ground of rejection cited by the Examiner in the Office Action dated September 8, 2004, and respectfully requests favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 16159.029001; P6714).

Date: November 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

 <sup>Reg. No.</sup>  
46,479

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